

# REGULAR CALLED MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Boardroom**

**July 7, 2026**

**5:30 p.m.**

1. Call to Order - Mayor Scott Byrd
2. Invocation
3. Approval of Board Minutes from June 16, 2026 - Mayor Byrd
4. Recognition of Service to the Community – Gary Brinkley
5. Confirmation of Housing Authority Recommendation – Gary Brinkley
6. Resolution to Extend terms for Airport Loan – Gary Brinkley
7. City Manager’s Report – Gary Brinkley
8. Routine Business – Mayor Byrd
9. Adjournment – Mayor Byrd

**Regular Meeting:** Citizens speaking to the Board of Directors shall have a speaking time limit of **10 minutes**. The Board of Directors may ask follow up questions which may extend the time limit.

**Open Session Forum:** Speaking time limit is **5 minutes** a speaker may not yield his or her time to another speaker

**REGULAR CALLED MEETING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Board Room**

**June 16, 2026**

**5:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS:**

Emily Merryman, *Ward 1 Director (Absent)*  
Chris Porter, *Ward 2 Director*  
Robin Jones *Ward 3 Director*  
Robert Davis, *Ward 4 Director*  
Jason Jones, *Ward 5 Director*  
Roland Gosey, *Assistant Mayor*  
Scott Byrd, *Mayor*

**OTHERS:**

*Gary Brinkley, City Manager*  
*Chama Williams, City Clerk*

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

The Mayor announced that a quorum was present.

**INVOCATION**

Director Davis

**APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES FROM JUNE 02, 2026**

A motion was made by Asst. Mayor Gosey, seconded by Director Davis to approve the minutes from the June 02, 2026 Board Meeting.

**The motion passed on a roll call vote, and the vote was as follows:**

<b>Emily Merryman</b>	<b>“Absent”</b>	<b>Roland Gosey</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Chris Porter</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>	<b>Jason Jones</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Robin Jones</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>	<b>Mayor Byrd</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Robert Davis</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>		

**APPROVE AFFIDAVIT OF DOCUMENTS TO DESTROY**

Mr. Brinkley informed the Board that City Clerk Tidwell presented an affidavit certifying that certain City records had met the applicable records retention requirements under state law and were eligible for destruction. In accordance with standard procedures and Arkansas law, the affidavit identified the records requested for destruction and confirmed compliance with all statutory requirements.

Street Invoices	1	2011 year
General Ledger	2011	Jan Dec
Receipts	2014	Jan Dec
Airport Street payable	2017	Jan Dec
General fund Box 1	2 17	
Airport payable	2018	Jan Dec
Airport Invoices	19	Jan Dec
Street payables	2018	Jan Dec
General Fund A I	2019	2 1 year
General Fund J+Z	2019	2019 year
Bank statement	2 18	Jan Dec
Bank statement	2 2	2022 year
Regions bank	2018	Jan Dec
Voided checks	2017	1 year
Bank statements	2 2021	
Invoices Gen. Fund	015	2 5 year
General Fund Box 2	2017	
Old Files From Desk	2019	

A motion was made by Asst. Mayor Gosey, seconded by Director J. Jones to approve the affidavit of record destruction.

**The motion passed on a roll call vote, and the vote was as follows:**

<b>Emily Merryman</b>	<b>"Absent"</b>	<b>Roland Gosey</b>	<b>"Aye"</b>
<b>Chris Porter</b>	<b>"Aye"</b>	<b>Jason Jones</b>	<b>"Aye"</b>
<b>Robin Jones</b>	<b>"Aye"</b>	<b>Mayor Byrd</b>	<b>"Aye"</b>
<b>Robert Davis</b>	<b>"Aye"</b>		

**APPROVAL TO EXECUTE ARDOT TRAFFIC CONTROL**

Mr. Brinkley stated the traffic signal originally planned for the Pine Street Expansion Project at the intersection of Pine Street and North 10th Street was reassigned to the North 10th Street Extension Project, allowing the new signal to be installed sooner than originally planned.

As part of this change, the City is required to execute a new Traffic Control Device Agreement with the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ArDOT). This agreement is standard for all traffic signals installed by ArDOT and outlines the responsibilities of each party. Under the agreement, ArDOT will install the traffic signal, and the City will assume responsibility for the ongoing costs of electricity, maintenance, and operation of the signal.

Staff recommended that the Board of Directors approve the Traffic Control Device Agreement and allow the City Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the City.

A motion was made by Director J. Jones, seconded by Director Davis to approve the Traffic Control Device Agreement and allow the City Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the City.

**The motion passed on a roll call vote, and the vote was as follows:**

<b>Emily Merryman</b>	<b>“Absent”</b>	<b>Roland Gosey</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Chris Porter</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>	<b>Jason Jones</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Robin Jones</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>	<b>Mayor Byrd</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Robert Davis</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>		

### **APPROVAL OF CD OFFER FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Brinkley stated there currently 8 certificates of deposit at 3 banks for AWU, with six different maturity dates.

These were presented to you for renewal at their maturity 6 different times in 2026.

Staff offered an option to the Board for consideration in a three-step process:

The CD’s maturing in June ’26 will be cashed out, and in August ’26, we will renew them all together. The CD matured in May ’26 will be cashed out and held to join this group when we renew in August ’26, and these will be extended and lumped into November ’26. The CD’s maturing in November ’26 and April ’27 would be lumped into April 2027.

We would then renew annually in April and November. Each group will have a 3-month extension. This transition would make it simpler to administer for both staff and the Board of Directors' agendas moving forward.

Director J. Jones requested that if the CD’s could be placed in a 3-month CD so they can be earning interest during the transition, that would be preferred. Staff agreed to pursue this approach.

A motion was made by Director J. Jones, seconded by Asst. Mayor Gosey to approve process for the maturing CDs in the water department

**The motion passed on a roll call vote, and the vote was as follows:**

<b>Emily Merryman</b>	<b>“Absent”</b>	<b>Roland Gosey</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Chris Porter</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>	<b>Jason Jones</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Robin Jones</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>	<b>Mayor Byrd</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Robert Davis</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>		

**PRESENTATION OF ARKADELPHIA WATER AND SEWER RATE STUDY**

Mr. Brinkley introduced Mr. John Short from Crist Engineering to give the presentation of the Water Rate Study that is now required by the State.

The study consisted of financial information, rates & connection fees, customer & usage information and capital improvements.

**SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD RESOLUTION FOR WATER RATE STUDY**

Mr. Brinkley stated a resolution was required to acknowledge the acceptance of the Water Rate Study for the Arkansas Natural Resource Commission submission due before July 1, 2026.

The mayor called for a motion to suspend the rules and add the Resolution for the Water Rate Study.

A motion was made by Director Porter, seconded by J. Jones to suspend the rules and add the resolution for the Water Rate Study to the agenda.

**The motion passed on a roll call vote, and the vote was as follows:**

<b>Emily Merryman</b>	<b>“Absent”</b>	<b>Roland Gosey</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Chris Porter</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>	<b>Jason Jones</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Robin Jones</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>	<b>Mayor Byrd</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Robert Davis</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>		

**ADOPT THE RESOLUTION FOR WATER RATE STUDY**

Mr. Brinkley presented a resolution adopting the City of Arkadelphia Water and Sewer Rate Study through 2031. The resolution was necessary to comply with Arkansas law, which requires the submission of a water rate study by July 1, 2026, and a sewer rate study by July 1, 2031, to the Arkansas Natural Resource Commission. Staff explained that completing both studies simultaneously provides continuity in planning and ensures a comprehensive evaluation of the utility system's revenues, expenses, and future financial needs.

Staff recommended that the Board of Director adopt the Resolution for the Water and Sewer Rate Study.

A motion was made by Director J. Jones, seconded by Director R. Jones to adopt the resolution for the Arkadelphia Water and Sewer Rate Study.

**The motion passed on a roll call vote, and the vote was as follows:**

<b>Emily Merryman</b>	<b>“Absent”</b>	<b>Roland Gosey</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Chris Porter</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>	<b>Jason Jones</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Robin Jones</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>	<b>Mayor Byrd</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>
<b>Robert Davis</b>	<b>“Aye”</b>		

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**June 2, 2026**

- Contractors broke ground on the new airport hangar last week.
  - The new hanger door was also delivered last week and the building will be delivered June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Prefabbed metal building to be erected on site.
  - Dirt work and slab pour will be done this week.
- A new tenant joined the airport after a previous tenant's lease expired.
- The 24" sewer pipe on 8<sup>th</sup> Street by OBU was permanently replaced last week. The pipe was an old, oddball sized pipe which had to be manufactured and thus delaying the repair.
- Tentatively, Sunday June 28<sup>th</sup> - N 10<sup>th</sup> Street will be closed so the ArDOT contractor can replace the drainage pipe just south of intersection of Haddock and N 10th.
- There was a house fire at 1502 Walnut last week. The home sustained heavy damage but everyone in the house got out safely.
- June 12-13, Juneteenth Celebration in Feaster Park hosted by the Excelsior Universal Lodge at Feaster Park was another success. Our congratulations to those men and women for hosting the event and their work in the community.

### Dates to Remember:

- Offices will be closed on June 19<sup>th</sup> Federal Holiday.
- Offices will be closed on July 3<sup>rd</sup> in honor of the July 4<sup>th</sup> Federal Holiday
- August 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Board Retreat at Dawson. 9am – 2pm

## **ROUTINE BUSINESS**

**Emily Merryman, Ward 1 – Nothing.**

**Chris Porter, Ward 2 – Absent.**

**Robin Jones, Ward 3 – Absent.**

**Robert Davis, Ward 4 – Nothing.**

**Jason Jones, Ward 5 - Nothing.**

**Roland Gosey, Assistant Mayor – Nothing.**

**Scott Byrd, Mayor – He asked about the Fly Over of the Air National Guard. Also asked about an update on the bidding of Pine St.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Asst. Mayor Gosey , seconded by Director J. Jones, to adjourn. **The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:03P.M.**

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Scott Byrd, Mayor

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Chama Tidwell, City Clerk

## **ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES**

Brandon Beene

Stuart Tapson

Derrick Ross.

Karen McClanahan

Diedra Middleton

Steve Sedgwick

L. Phillips



## Memorandum

**To:** Arkadelphia Board of Directors  
**CC:** Ed McCorkle, City Attorney  
**From:** Gary Brinkley, City Manager  
**Date:** June 25, 2026  
**Re:** Recommendation to Appoint Arkadelphia Housing Authority  
Commission Member



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Attached please find a letter from the Arkadelphia Housing Authority Commission requesting you confirm the appointment of Mr. David Jaskey.

This appointment comes after the passing of Mr. Gary Hunter. Mr. Jaskey will fulfill the remaining term of Mr. Hunter.

Mr. Jaskey will be appointed to the position which has a term expiration date of August 1, 2029.

Your ratification of the recommendation is requested.

Thank you.



670 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923  
870-246-4632

**Bobbi Partain, Executive Director**

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Mayor and Members of the Arkadelphia City Board of Directors

**From:** Bobbi Partain, Executive Director  
Arkadelphia Housing Authority

**Date:** June 25, 2026

**Subject:** Confirmation of Housing Authority Commissioner Appointment

At the regular meeting of the Arkadelphia Housing Authority Board of Commissioners held on June 18, 2026, the Board voted to recommend the appointment of Mr. David Jaskey to fill the unexpired term created by the death of Commissioner Gary Hunter.

Pursuant to Arkansas law and the Housing Authority's bylaws, we respectfully request confirmation of this appointment by the Arkadelphia City Board of Directors.

Upon confirmation, Mr. Jaskey will serve the remainder of the current term ending August 2029.

Please let us know if any additional information is needed to facilitate this appointment.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of the Arkadelphia Housing Authority.


Respectfully,

Bobbi Partain  
Executive Director  
Arkadelphia Housing Authority



## Memorandum

**To:** Arkadelphia Board of Directors  
**CC:** Ed McCorkle, City Attorney  
**From:** Gary Brinkley, City Manager  
**Date:** July 2, 2026  
**Re:** Resolution to Extend the Airport Construction Loan Account at Citizens



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In 2024 we accepted the bid from Citizens Bank for a revolving construction loan account for the Airport via Resolution R-24-4.

These airport construction projects are reimbursement grants, the city has to front the construction costs which is detrimental to our cash flows.

This system of funding grants with Citizens has worked well for us in funding and completing all the projects in 2024, 2025 and up through last month. And there have been numerous projects.

In speaking with Ms. Lori Ross of Citizens, they have agreed to extend the terms until Dec. 2027 at the same rate of 5.89%. This will allow us to seamlessly complete projects in the queue.

Your approval of the attached Resolution is requested.

Thank you.

**RESOLUTION NO. R-26-**

**A RESOLUTION TO EXTEND LOAN AT CITIZENS BANK FOR AIRPORT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDING**

WHEREAS, the City of Arkadelphia, Arkansas owns and operates a municipal airport; and,

WHEREAS, the City has capital improvement grants and will receive two more by the end of 2027 from the Federal Aviation Administration and/or the Arkansas Dept of Aeronautics; and,

WHEREAS, the grants for these capital improvements have a reimbursement component, meaning the city must spend the money first; and,

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2024 the City Board of Directors approved Resolution R-24-04 granting staff the opportunity to borrow funds with Citizens Bank to front the construction projects and repay once the grant funds are received; and,

WHEREAS, this system has worked well for the past 24 months and there is a need to extend the program; and,

WHEREAS, Citizens Bank has agreed to extend the terms until December 31, 2027 at the rate of 5.89%.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the City of Arkadelphia, Arkansas:

SECTION I: The City of Arkadelphia will extend the agreement with Citizens Bank to borrow up to \$600,000 for a period of eighteen month secured by grant letters.

SECTION II: Interest of 5.89% will be paid monthly against the outstanding borrowed amount.

SECTION III: City Manager, Gary Brinkley, is hereby authorized to sign the necessary documents to facilitate the loan and procure the funding.

Passed on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of July, 2026.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Scott Byrd

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
(SEAL) Chama Williams, City Clerk